It had been stated, in reply to an earlier representation urging the necessity for recruiting the Magistrates from the Bar, that there were qualified hands in the clerical staff to be appointed as Magistrates and that it would be a great hardship to them to deprive them of their legitimate promotion. The criterion for the appointment should be not whether a particular person was in service as a clerk or was a vakil, but whether he was efficient to discharge the duties attached to the post. A service examination on the model of the Indian Civil Service should be instituted and persons passing at examination should be recruited. Even the members of the minority communities would then get their share of appointments.

The Malayala Brahmins had a respresentative in the Legislative Council, as they came under the category of *Jenmies*. But the other minority communities had no representation at all. A representative institution should have representatives from all the communities in the State. Since the minority communities could not return their own members from the general constituencies special electorates should be constituted for them. The practice of nominating members was not satisfactory and it did not adequately meet the requirements of the minority communities. There were only 50 members in the Legislative Council, including the 15 official members. With this limited number of members it would not be possible to allot seats for all the minority communities. The number of members should therefore be increased by 15 to remedy this defect. It would also be desirable to reduce the number of constituencies and to permit more than one member to be returned from each constituency.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Tuppan Namputiri, the representation of minorities in the Council and in the public service is a problem and we had many allusions to it in the Assembly. A satisfactory solution is difficult to find. Your suggestions in regard to the Council will be considered when its constitution is revised and I hope that the Recruitment Committee will be able to satisfy you with regard to your representation in public service.

The question of promoting clerks as Magistrates has, I think, already come up. If that branch of promotion is taken away from them, it will be a great hardship. And I can see no reason to depart from the present procedure.

186. Administrative reforms.

MR. R. RAMASWAMI (*Nominated*) first suggested the desirability of imparting industrial and vocational instruction, such as soap and candle making, ink manufacture, weaving, book-binding, book-keeping, typewriting and shorthand in schools. The present day education was too literary to be of any practical use to the students in their after life.

Primary education up to the fourth standard should be made compulsory. Parents who did not send their children up to a certain age to schools should be punished.

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The taluks of Tovala, Agastisvaram, Kalkulam and Shencotta were Tamil speaking taluks but the correspondence in the offices there was carried on in Malayalam. This was not desirable. The correspondence should be ordered to be carried on in Tamil.

There should be at least four members well versed in Tamil in the Text-Book Committee. In the absence of Tamil knowing members in the Committee the text-books on Tamil were not properly selected for the different classes.

There were many who had passed the *Vidvan* Examination in Tamil and it was regrettable that, while such men were available, those who had passed the Tamil Higher Examination were appointed in higher grade vernacular schools. As far as possible *Vidvans* should be appointed in such schools.

The text-books selected every year should be printed and issued for sale by the Text-Book Committe. Text-books were not now made available for sale in time and at proper prices.

The system of issuing agricultural loans did not benefit the really needy ryots. There was difficulty in getting the loans. Only the rich and influential people were able to obtain the loans. Necessary orders should therefore be issued to the effect that greater attention should be paid in the matter of granting loans to the poor ryots.

In former times, the level of water in irrigation tanks was watched daily and the distribution of water was controlled. This system should be revived and the maintenance of tanks attended to properly.

Poramboke lands should be registered in the names of the occupants thereof. The full rights over the trees thereon should also be given to them.

The following public works about which representation was made at the 26th session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly should be attended to early :—

(1) Metalling the Parakkai-Tamaracolam road.

(2) Construction of—

(*a*) the Dharmapuram-Manakudi road ; and

(*b*) a road from Parakkai-Gandhipuram to Suchindram tank.

(3) Extension of the Tenganputur and Champakulam channels to Puttallom, Manakudi, Anchukudiyiruppu and other villages and the construction of the necessary bridges and bathing ghats. These channels would benefit over 25,000 persons inhabiting the above-said villages.

The need for standardising the grain measures in Nanjinad had been represented ever since the inception of the Assembly. The same subject was also pressed at the current session by other members. A uniform standard measure should be prescribed.

The assessment on most of the lands in Nanjinad was high when the productivity of the lands was taken into consideration. The assessment should therefore be reduced.

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During the dry season, the inhabitants of several places in Nanjinad, especially Puttallom, Parakkai and the Ezhava street, were put to much hardship and inconvenience due to the want of good drinking water. Necessary steps should therefore be taken to supply good drinking water to the above-said villages.

When the need for opening a dispensary at Manakudi was represented at the 26th session of the Assembly, the Government said that a bi-weekly dispensary at least would be opened there. But as yet the institution was not an accomplished fact. It should be opened without further delay.

The ryots in Nanjinad should be permitted to graze their cattle free in the reserved forests. The need for such permission had been urged in vain on the Government through the Assembly and the Legislative Council. The permission should be granted. The ryots should also be allowed to remove green manure and timber for making agricultural implements from the forests free of charge.

Lastly, the member spoke about the need for reforming the Assembly. He suggested that the membership for the Assembly should continue for three years and the members allowed to interpellate heads of departments about subjects concerning their respective departments and that two sessions of the Assembly should be convoked every year. The members should be given all the Government publications given to members of the Legislative Council. Members of the Assembly should also be given all the other privileges enjoyed by members of the Legislative Council.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Your suggestions for improving education, Mr. Ramaswami, deserve consideration; more industrial instruction is certainly necessary.

The whole question of choosing text-books is to be reconsidered.

Your other suggestions will probably go before the new Educational Reforms Committee.

Agricultural loans are distributed by the Land Revenue Commissioner according to the requirements of each taluk.

Irrigation tanks are attended to by the Public Works Department in the order of urgency and to the extent to which funds are available.

Lessees of trees on *poramboke* lands have only limited right of enjoyment, and that cannot be made greater. They cannot be given full right because the land is *poramboke* and cannot be registered. It may be wanted by Government for some particular purpose.

Instructions will be given to the District Magistrates for enforcing the Weights and Measures Regulation.

The Parakkai-Tamaracolam road will cost a lot of money. An estimate for widening the earth work has been considered, and that alone amounts to Rs. 11,000. The metalling will cost another Rs. 10,000. So, it must wait until funds are available.

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The Dharmapuram-Manakudi road, again, will be a useful work; but, it would cost about Rs. 15,000 including land acquisition. It may be taken up when funds are available.

Wells have been sunk in Nanjinad in various places. Land is going to be acquired for sinking a public well in the Parakkai pakuthi.

The road from Parakkai-Gandhipuram to Suchindram tank was placed before the Road Board, and the consideration of it has been deferred pending additional information. It will be placed before the Road Board at its next meeting.

Drinking water wells will be provided as requisitions are received by the Sanitary Commissioner. Borings have been taken by the Chief Engineer in Puttalfom.

Free grazing of all domestic animals is allowed in all reserves and plantations which are not closed against grazing. A small fee is levied for the removal of green manure, and this is considered necessary.

Your request that members of this Assembly should get all the privileges enjoyed by members of the Legislative Council is noted for consideration.

187. Responsible Government in Travancore.

MR. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI (*Quilon taluk, Group I*) said that he had repeatedly represented about the necessity for the early establishment of responsible government in the State for the past six years. His Majesty the King Emperor had graciously announced that responsible government would be granted to India at no distant date. The people of Travancore were eminently fit to have responsible government. They believed that government by the people for the people was the best form of government. Their Excellencies Lord Reading and Lord Irwin in their memorable speeches made in Hyderabad had advised the Rulers of Indian States to introduce responsible government in their respective States. The people of Travancore had been agitating for a long time for the introduction of responsible government in the State. The South Indian States People's Conference held at Trivandrum under the presidentship of Sir M. Visvesvara Aiyah had passed a resolution urging the need for the establishment of responsible government at an early date. The Butler Committee had remarked that Travancore and Mysore were the two States which were eminently fitted for responsible government. Travancore was the first State to establish a Legislative Council 35 years ago. The Sri Mulam Popular Assembly has been in existence for the last 28 years. The political consciousness of the people was further apparent from the 100 and odd newspapers published in the State. When the idea of an All-India Federation was looming large before the people, they had every right to demand that they should be enabled to participate in the administration of their State.

When he spoke about the subject during the time of Mr. M. E. Watts, he read out an extract from an article contributed by the late Sir. P. Rajagopalachariar, to the effect that the Maha Rajas of Travancore had been constitutional rulers who were

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